

REMARKS

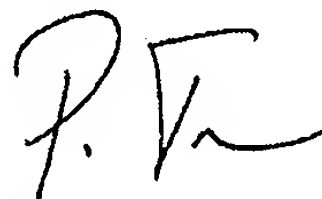
The present paper is responsive to the non-final Office Action dated November 17, 2008. The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's comments, in particular the indication of allowable subject matter.

Without substantive discussion of the Examiner's arguments set forth in the latest Action, by the present response amended claims 1, 6-7, 12, 17-18, 21, and 26-27 are presented for consideration. It is believed that these amendments to the claims present allowable subject matter in accordance with the Examiner's comments on page 6 of the latest Action. Claims 3-5, 14-16, and 23-25 are canceled without prejudice to their presentation in one or more continuation patent applications.

The amended claims, and the original claims depending properly therefrom, of the present application as set forth above are believed to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. However, if any other issues remain, or if the scope of allowable coverage is believed to have been misconstrued, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative to expedite prosecution of this application. No fees are believed to be due in association with the present paper, but if any unforeseen fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct them from the undersigned's **Deposit Account No. 11-0978**.

Respectfully submitted,

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